

Bangkok Airways flies you to

T r a u m i n e l



T h a i l a n d





"Sie wollen sie niemals wieder verlassen", so beschreibt ein Reisemagazin die Insel Samui. Dieses tropische Versteck, so, wie es sich ein jeder erträumt, wirft seinen Zauber voraus und lässt Ihren Aufenthalt vom Traum im Paradies Wirklichkeit werden.

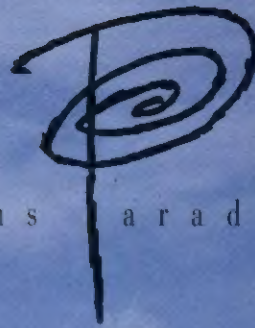
Bangkok Airways ist der erste und einzige Veranstalter von täglichen Flügen nach Samui. Wenn ihre Bangkok



Airways Dash 8 Maschine zur Landung ansetzt, fühlen Sie sich, als würden Sie mühelos ueber einem Meer von tiefstem Tuerkis schweben. Nach und nach wird die Farbe heller, bis das Meer in den Strand übergeht und sich ein Teppich aus feinem weissen Sand entfaltet. Auf der anderen Seite dieser tropischen Schwelle gleitet das Flugzeug ueber gruenen Palmen dahin, um auf der Trauminsel zu landen.

Gelandet, ja, aber sind Sie wirklich zurück auf der Erde? Schon der Insel Flughafen ist das wahre Abbild eines tropischen Dorfes. Im thailändischen Stil, an den Seiten offen, aus Stroh und einheimischen Hölzern gebaut, sieht die Ankunftshalle aus wie im Paradies. Hier sollten Sie ihre Rückflugtickets bestätigen lassen, doch wollen Sie jemals wieder zurück?





Ihre Fahrkarte ins Paradies



Wenn Samui nicht existiert
hätte, würden es Globetrotter
erfunden haben. Es ist diese Art
von Ort, die tropische Insel von
der man träumt, aber glaubt,
dass sie nur zu den
Geschichten der Reisenden
gehört.

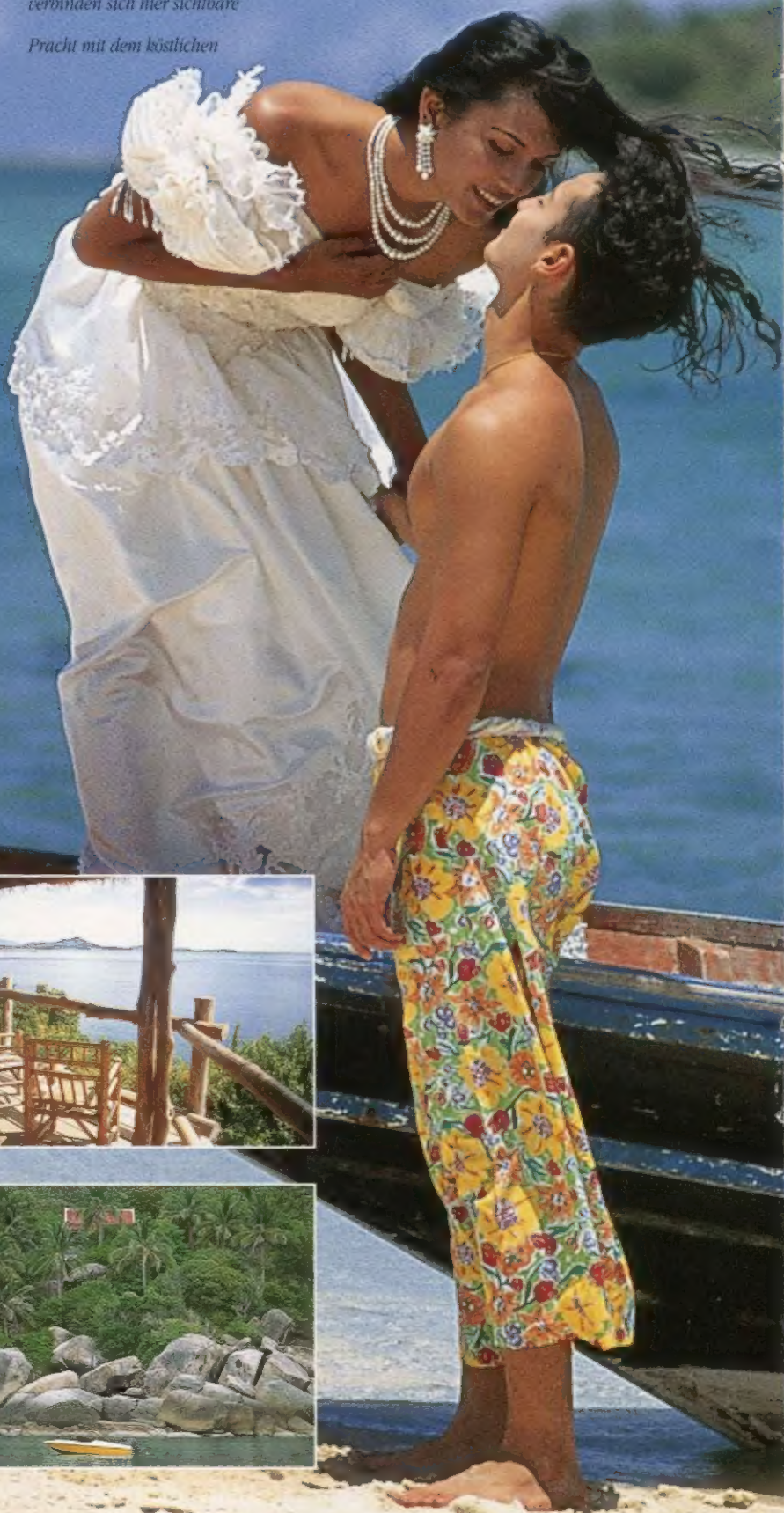
Eine Fläche von 247 km²
bedeckend, ist Samui Thailands
drittgrößte Insel. Kokosnuss-
bäume übertreffen jedoch bei
weitem die Anzahl der
Menschen und es ist der
natürliche Charme der dieses
Juwel im Golf von Siam in
reinsten Bezauberung funkeln

Stränden. Kein Wunder, die
Insulaner haben noch Zeit zum
Lächeln.
Samui, wie alle schönen
Inseln, erhält sich ihre natü-
rliche Abgeschlossenheit und
Tradition. Atemberaubend
verbinden sich hier sichbare
Pracht mit dem köstlichen

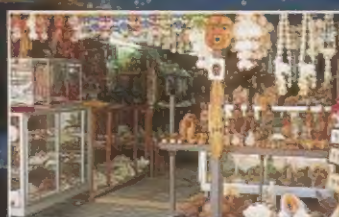
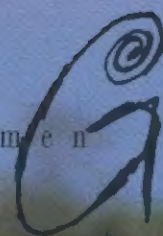
Gefühl allem entflohen zu sein
und sofort fühlt man sich
gefangen von der betörenden
Luft dieser tropischen
Leichtigkeit.

Das wirklich zauberhafte
an Samui ist, dass das
paradiesische nach der
Entdeckung nicht verblasste.
Was Weltenbummler in den
70ern vorfanden, ist das, was
man heute in den 90ern erlebt.
Nur heute werden die Träume
viel einfacher wahr.

lässt. Die grünen Hügel im
Landesinneren, ruhig und
majestätisch, schauen auf die
Palmen hinunter, von nichts
weniger gestört als einer
leichten Brise und der
Küstenlinie mit ihren
versteckten Buchten und
nahezu verlassen



Eine Insel den Träumen gewidmet



In dieser zauberhaften Welt ist die Versuchung einmal nichts zu tun. Besonders gross. Einfach an einem idyllischen Strand faulenzen und eine beneidenswerte Bräune tanken. Es gibt jedoch mehr zu sehen, als Sie sich erträumt haben.

Chaweng und Lamai, die zwei beliebtesten Strände Samuis, bieten alle klassischen Attraktionen an. Meer und Sand und für die aktiveren Wassersportmöglichkeiten wie Schnorcheln und Windsurfen. Andere kleinere, aber trotzdem wunderschöne Strände und Buchten liegen entlang der Küste, während eine Fahrt ins Landesinnere Sie in eine andere Welt bringt. Ein immerwährendes Bild von grünen Kokosnussplantagen, malerischen Städtchen mit alten hölzernen Läden und Fischerdörfern mit ihren farbenprächtigen Booten.

Samui ist nur eine Insel in einem Archipel. Eine kurze Entdeckungsreise bringt Sie nach Pha Ngan und wenn man dort zur richtigen Zeit ankommt, zur grössten

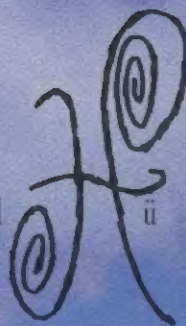
Strandparty, die Sie je erlebt haben. In jeder Vollmondnacht verwandelt sich das Meer in ein Reich von Menschen um, unter dem eindringlich silber glühendem Licht des Mondes, welches den tropischen Strand in ein Reich des Wunders verwandelt, zu essen, zu trinken und zu tanzen.

Darüber hinaus erwarten Sie andere Inseln und andere Erlebnisse. Ang Thong Marine Park ist einfach atemberaubend mit seinen spektakulären Kalksteinformationen, Höhlen, Lagunen und bemerkenswert schönen Stränden. Alles ist scheinbar noch unberührt, jungfräuliche Inseln in einer ruhigen blauen See.

Frei sein! Von Insel zu Insel hüpfen lädt zum Erforschen, Herumwandern und Entdecken ein. Genauso verlockt es zum Einkaufen von Souvenirs und zum Schwelgen in leiblichen Genüssen, wie es sich Robinson Crusoe nicht hätte träumen lassen.



l n s e l ü p f e n





Die schönsten Hotels auf der Insel zählen zu den Besten der Welt und eines der Neuesten ist das Santiburi Dusit Resort. Ein exotisches Versteck, angelegt in einem grosszügigen Garten, gehört das Santiburi zu Thailands wohlbekannter Dusit Hotel Gruppe und hält fuer Sie exclusive Unterkünfte in luxuriösen thailaendischen Pavillions bereit. Voll ausgestattet, bietet es ausserdem eine exclusive Auswahl an Restaurants und Samuis grösstes Frischwasserschwimmbad. Hier harmoniert einfach alles mit der aussergewöhnlichen Schönheit der natürlichen Landschaft.

Ein wirklich tropisches Paradies bietet das Beste aus aller Welt und auf Samui verschmilzt ein himmlischer Urlaub mit irdischen Freuden. Vom einfachen Bambus und strohgedeckten Strandbungalow bis hin zum schamlosen Luxus gibt es Unterkünfte, die fuer jederman passend sind.



U r l a u b i m H i m m e l



Eine andere wohlbekannte Hotelkette Thailands ist die Imperial Gruppe, die sich mit nicht weniger als drei Anlagen auf Samui rühmt. Das erste Hotel, Tongsai Bay, ist ein phantastisch und idyllisch gelegener Schlupfwinkel, der nahezu die perfekte Kombination aus natürlicher Landschaft und Luxus erster Klasse verkörpert.





*Das Hotel Imperial
Samui ist wieder ganz
anders, es präsentiert sich
als Hotel im mediterranen
Stil mit thailändischer
Gastlichkeit. Die landschaftlich
schöne Hanglage mit Blick auf den
wunderhübschen Strand Chaweng Noi
steigert den Luxus des
Hotels. Essen unter freiem
Himmel und eine
verlockende Auswahl an
kulinarischen
Gaumenfreuden trägt zum
Charme des Imperial
Samuis bei.*

*Das dritte der
Imperial Hotel, das
"Boathouse", bietet eine
einzigartige Mischung aus
reizender Illusion und
fröhlicher Wirklichkeit.
Unterkünfte werden in
authentisch nachgebauten
Teakholz Reiskarren, die
raffiniert in zweistöckige
Luxussuiten umgebaut
sind, angeboten.*

*Unter den Mittelklasse Hotels ist das Samui Palm Beach
Resort eine ausgezeichnete Wahl. Es ist wunderhübsch an*



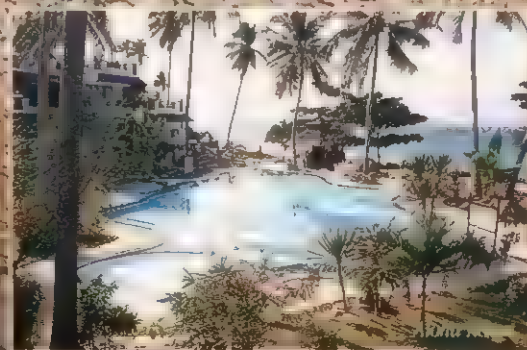
*einem weissen Sandstrand mit tropisch grünem Hinterland
gelegen. Das Hotel bietet Unterkünfte in komfortablen
Bungalows und eine ausgezeichnete Küche.*



Der Stoff aus dem die Träume sind



Pavilion Resort



Im mehr herkömmlichen Stil sind das Pavilion Resort, Montien Haus, Aloha Resort und das Coral Cove Chalet gehalten. Alle Anlagen liegen direkt am Strand und führen einen guten Standard mit preisgünstigen Übernachtungsmöglichkeiten.

Dieses sind nur einige Empfehlungen und ohne auf die natürliche Umgebung verzichten zu müssen, hält Samui eine komplette Auswahl von Hotels bereit. Unter den zahlreichen Lokalitäten ist das JR Palace besonders beliebt, denn das Menu bietet ein kulinarisches Spektrum von internationalen Spezialitäten bis hin zu scharfen thailändischen Speisen und frischen Fischgerichten alles an.

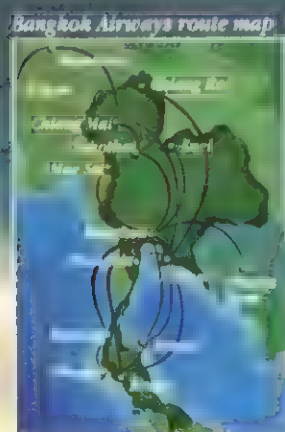


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Samut ist eine hü-
gelige Insel von ca. 30 km
Länge. Sie liegt 650 km süd-
lich von Bangkok und
ist in einem 70 minü-
tigem Flug von dort aus
zu erreichen. Eine
Ringstrasse verbindet alle
wichtigen Orte, während
American Express für ihre
Annehmlichkeiten sorgt.



Corbis



— Present Routes
— Future Routes



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The Sky *of* Tropical Paradise

Samui



TROPICAL PARADISE

In less than 20 years, the island of Koh Samui in Thailand's deep south has emerged from almost total obscurity to become today one of the leading holiday destinations in Asia, drawing visitors in ever-increasing numbers from every corner of the globe to enjoy its fabulous charms.

Such a remarkable rise has been possible because, quite simply, Koh Samui is an emerald isle of magical qualities, a one-in-a-million place that never fails to beguile and mesmerize its guests. Even descriptions like "tropical paradise" and "dream island" somehow fall short of its true allure.

Yet despite its enormous international popularity, Koh Samui remains little changed from the virtually deserted and pristine hideaway first "discovered" by backpackers and adventurers in the mid-1970s. But whereas in the past, visitors had no choice but to stay in primitive huts, usually without electricity or running water, Koh Samui today boasts some of the finest accommodation in Southeast Asia, along with sufficient infrastructure to make life comfortable without impinging on the island's natural attractions.

Among its modern facilities is an airport, built and operated by Bangkok Airways, whose design and architecture are in total harmony with the surroundings and capture the environmentally-friendly spirit of this extraordinary island. It was recently upgraded to be a customs airport which can now accept international traffic and accommodates Bangkok Airways' flights



ENVIRONMENT FRIENDLY

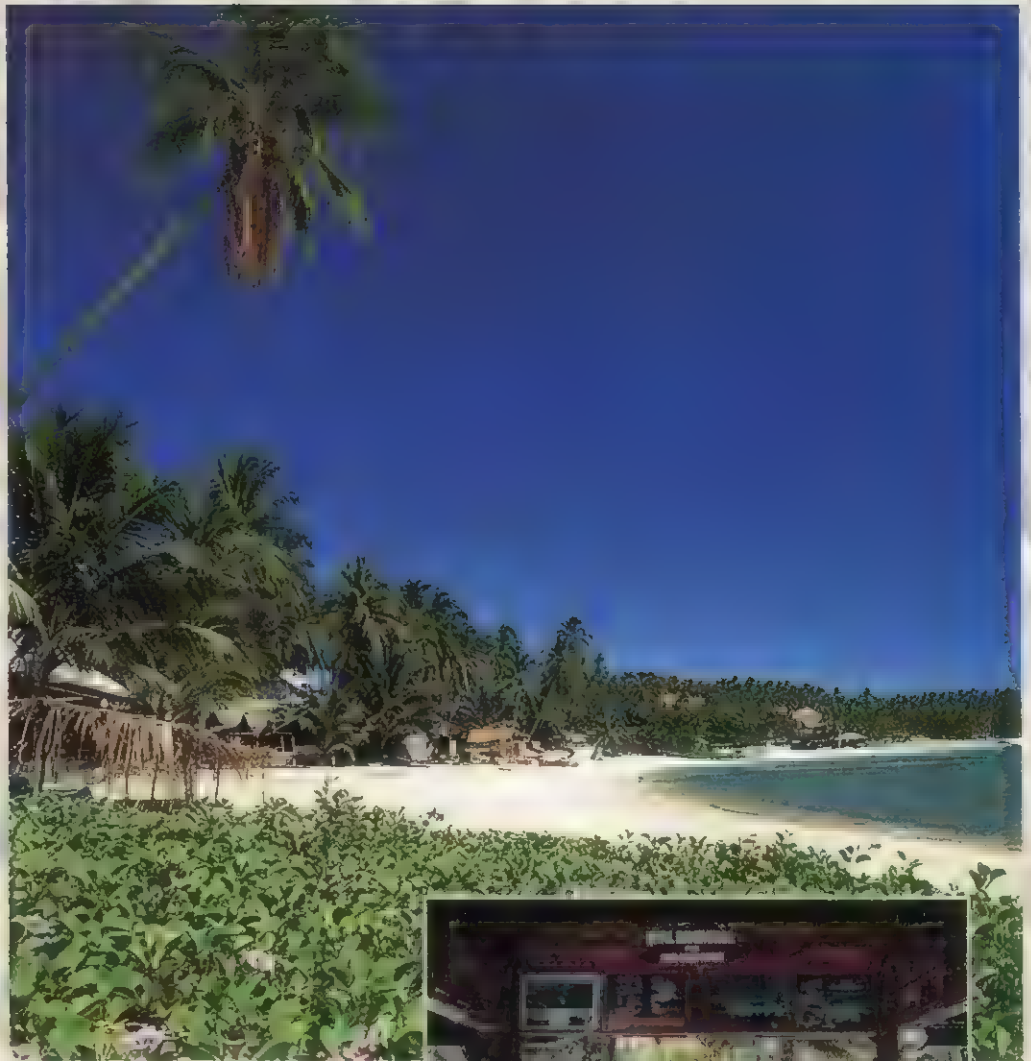
The inhabitants of Koh Samui as well as these who operate businesses there are justly proud of their island and its unique beauty. They are also acutely aware of the need to preserve the very qualities that first attracted visitors in the early 1970s and which continue to attract them today. You won't see on Koh Samui, for example, any building taller than the tallest coconut tree as it is not permitted. And you will note that beach hotels fastidiously clean the beach area adjacent to their property. It's a collective effort to make sure that the island remains as gorgeous as the day the first visitor stepped ashore.

Bangkok Airways contributes to this effort by ensuring that its airport on the northeast corner of the island is in complete harmony with the culture and environment. The open-sided terminal buildings have thatched roofs in traditional Samui style, and are surrounded by lofty coconut palms. Even the runway is bordered by tropical flowers.



Santiburi Dusit Resort, Koh Samui

DISE



Samui

...



to Singapore. Bangkok Airways is the major carrier to Koh Samui, operating up to 15 flights a day by modern turboprop, departing from the domestic terminal, Bangkok International Airport.

Today's visitors include people of all ages, tastes and budgets. All have access to dozens of superlative beaches as well as a host of sporting pastimes, from scuba diving and yachting to cycling and sea canoeing. And when the tropical sun dips below the horizon, inevitably in a dramatic blaze of colours, it's time to enjoy the wonderful tastes of southern Thai cuisine, which often features inevitably succulent seafood, fresh from the bountiful Gulf of Thailand.

Of People & Coconuts



With an area of almost 250 sq kms, Koh Samui ranks as Thailand's third largest island (after Phuket and Koh Chang). By car, it takes about 1 1/2 hours to drive around the entire perimeter. Most of its 33,000 or so inhabitants live within a few hundred metres of the seashore. The hinterland is hilly and blanketed in either thick forest or coconut plantations. Indeed, so vast and plentiful are these plantations that it is said that Koh Samui produces more coconuts per square metre than anywhere else in the world. In the days before tourism, these coconuts were the main source of income and provided the islanders with a relatively affluent way of life.



Baan Taling Ngam, Koh Samui, A Le Meridien Resort









Chaweng Beachcomber, Koh Samui



Chaweng Blue Lagoon, Koh Samui

Little is known of Koh Samui's distant past, except that the earliest settlers came from the mainland to farm and fish on the island. It is also believed that a wave of Chinese immigrants arrived some 150 years ago, and their influence can be seen even today in various Chinese festivals still held with great enthusiasm on Koh Samui. Other evidence points to settlers from as far afield as India and the old Khmer empire, now Cambodia. But from this melting pot has emerged people, who like islanders around the world, are friendly, hospitable and always ready to offer a warm welcome to outsiders.

WHERE ?

Koh Samui is one of several dozen islands set in the southern reaches of the Gulf of Thailand. The nearest mainland town is Surat Thani, some 60 kilometres to the west. Directly north of Koh Samui is the slightly smaller, but equally beautiful island of Koh Pha Ngan. To the west is a chain of smaller islands which form the Ang Thong marine national park. Further north is Koh Tao, best known for its world-class scuba dive sites.

Bangkok, Thailand's largest city and capital, is some 400 kilometres north of Koh Samui.

GETTING THERE

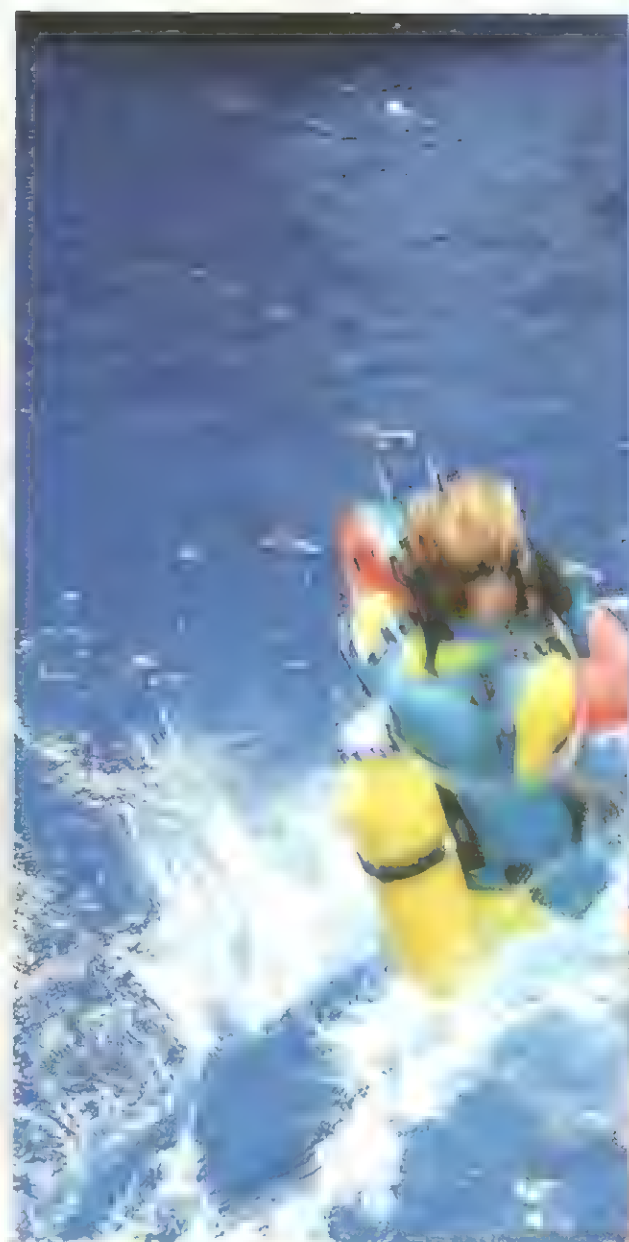
With the opening of the island's airport in 1989, a large number of visitors began arriving by air via Bangkok Airways, which now has direct flights from Bangkok, U-Tapao and Phuket. Koh Samui airport is located on the northeast corner of the island, a short distance from the main beaches of Chaweng and Lamai. For the convenience of international visitors, the airport has customs facilities so that luggage can be checked through from their original destination.

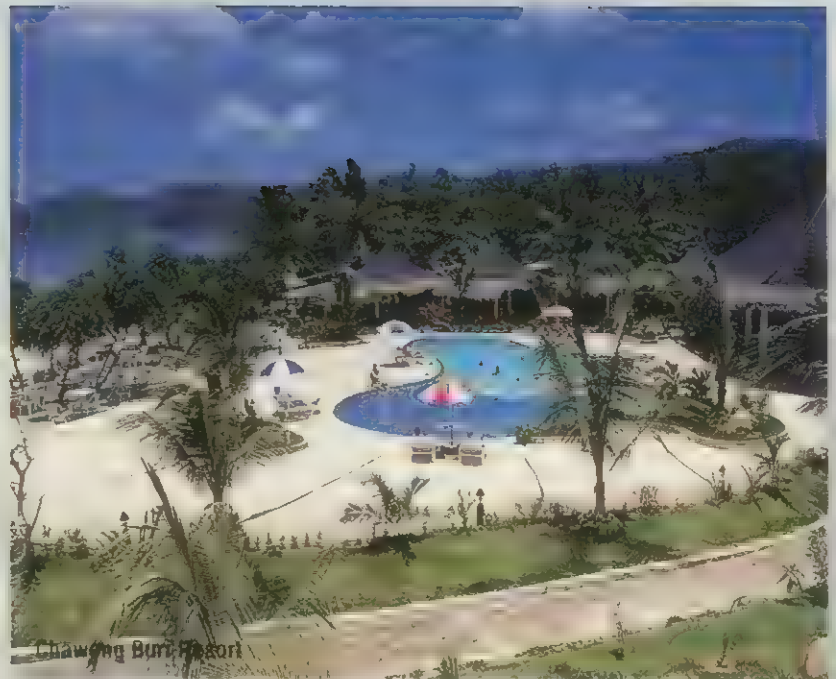


BEACH LIFE

Although beautiful white sandy beaches run the entire circumference of Koh Samui, the two most popular - Chaweng and Lamai - are set on the east coast.

Of these, Chaweng was the first to catch the attention of visitors and, as a result, is today slightly more developed than Lamai. Beside the simple huts and bungalows that were once the only form of accommodation, Chaweng now has a choice of several luxury first-class hotels and attractive resorts with villas designed in traditional Thai or Balinese themes.





While the beach itself boasts a number of bars and restaurants affording spectacular views of the Gulf of Siam, the main activity is centered on the back road, where there are plenty of shops, mini-markets, restaurants and, set even farther back, several excellent discos.

To the south, beyond a headland, lies Lamai, a low-key beach area still favoured by budget travellers. Accommodation here is mainly in the form of simple bungalow resorts set picturesquely in coconut groves or on secluded bays overlooking the sea. A village-like atmosphere pervades Lamai and the pace of life here is noticeably slower than Chaweng. In addition to a local market, there is an old monastery and museum, as well as health and meditation centres, a Thai boxing school and all kinds of small shops. On a headland is a huge rock formation known as Grandfather and Grandmother Rocks, which are said to resemble certain intimate parts of the male and female body.

The north coast of Koh Samui has seen much less development than either Chaweng and Lamai, but nevertheless has several beautiful beaches : Bophut Beach, best known for its windsurfing and yachting possibilities, as well as a giant Buddha statue and shrine ; Maenam Beach, which like Bophut, features a range of accommodation, from simple bungalows to five-star hotels ; and Tong Sai Bay, which is set on the east side of an isthmus. This is the location of two of Koh Samui's leading luxury hotels.

Even less developed, at least as far as tourism is concerned, is the west coast. Most visitors know this area because of the ferry terminals here - one linking Koh Samui to the mainland, and the other to the islands of Koh Pha Ngan and Ang Thong to the north. It is, however, well worth visiting, due to several spectacular waterfalls set a little distance inland and the numerous temples dotted near the coast road. The town of Na Thon is surprisingly lively and offers





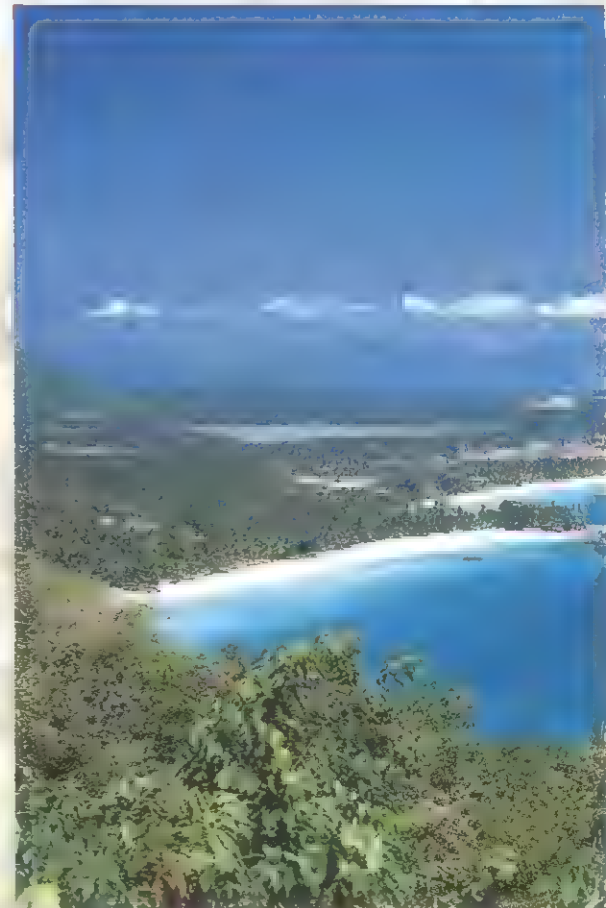
some of the best shopping opportunities on Koh Samui.

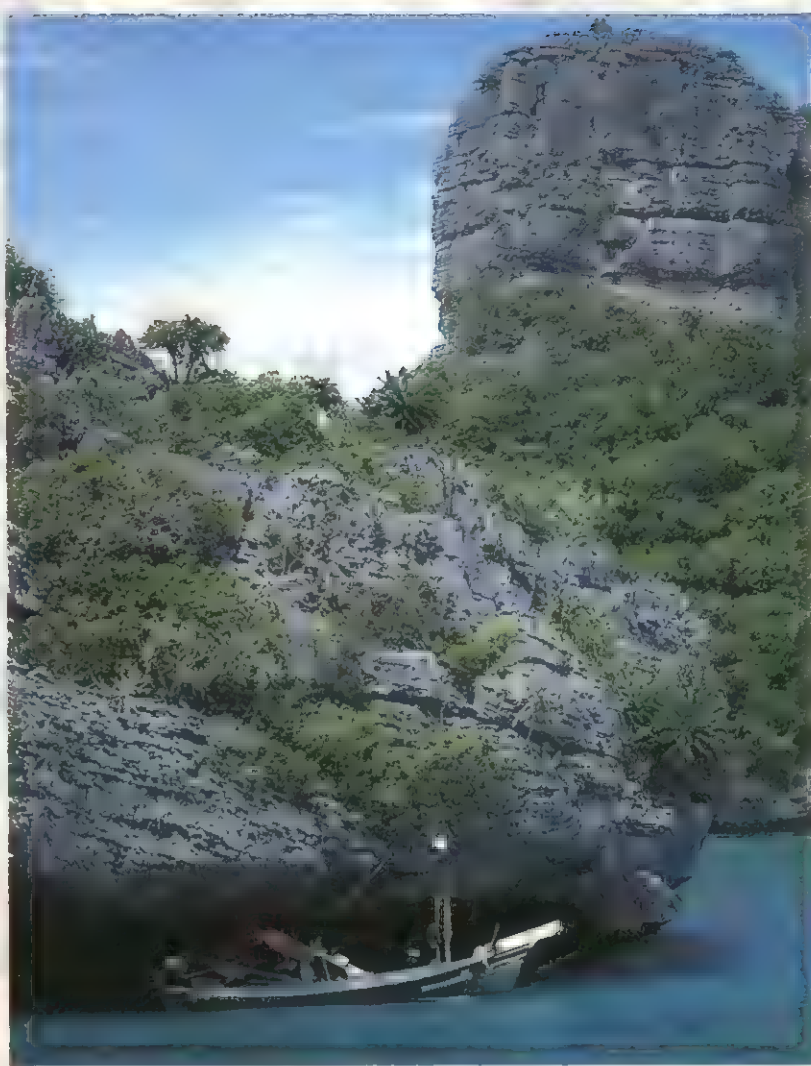
WHAT 'To Do

For a relatively small island, Koh Samui has an amazing range of activities available to visitors. More importantly, these appeal to people of all ages, from the youngest children to senior travellers, and at remarkably affordable prices. Indeed, Koh Samui is literally a place on earth where dreams can come true.

Apart from simply lounging on the island's fabulous beaches and enjoying the clear blue skies and the year-round tropical sunshine, the most popular pastime is diving. Here, it is possible to learn all about scuba diving from experts. After becoming a qualified diver you head off to some of the most beautiful and unspoiled dive sites in the world. These include the seas around Koh Tao, a short distance to the north of Koh Samui, the islands of Ang Thong marine national park and even at selected sites near Koh Samui itself. Coral life is not only spectacular but abundant, while the marine life is exotic and always surprising. Seen regularly here are whale sharks, finback whales, pilot whales, barracuda and blacktip reef sharks. Some can be even viewed by simply snorkeling in certain waters, but don't worry, all encounters are perfectly safe.

Other water sports include windsurfing, parasailing, fishing and sailing on all kinds of boats available for charter from either individual hotels or beach operators. The dozen or so islands surrounding Ang Thong marine national park





are ideal for sea canoeing, a pastime rapidly growing in popularity with visitors.

Herbal saunas as well as traditional and modern-style massages are available, too, in places ranging from humble local huts to ultra-sophisticated facilities in several of the island's five-star hotels.

Also worth visiting are the Butterfly Farm on the southeast corner of Koh Samui, where all kinds of species can be observed at close hand, and the Monkey Theatre, in which the little fellows demonstrate their amazing dexterity, especially when it comes to scaling towering trees to pick coconuts.

WHERE TO STAY

Put simply, there is accommodation on Koh Samui to suit every taste and every budget, from simple bungalows with the most basic of amenities costing just a few dollars a night to five-star hotels operated by the world's leading companies, set spectacularly on headlands and cliffs or around stunning bays with their own exclusive beaches.

Hotels participating in this brochure:

- Baan Samui Resort Tel: 077-230965-9
- Baan Taling Ngam Tel: 077-423019, 423022
- Beachcomber Tel: 077-422041-3
- Royal Blue Lagoon Tel: 077-422037-40
- Central Samui Beach Tel: 077-230500
- Email: csbr596@samarth.co.th
- Chaweng Buri Resort Tel: 077-422465-6

- The Imperial Samui Tel: 077-422020-36
- Imperial Boat House Tel: 077-425041
- Poppies Samui Tel: 077-422419
- E-mail: poppies@samarth.co.th
- Samui Palm Beach Resort Tel: 077-425494-5
- Santiburi Dusit Resort Tel: 077-425031-8
- Reggae Pub Tel: 077-422331-2, 230175-9



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BANGKOK AIRWAYS ROUTE MAP

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SAMUI

THAILAND



เกาะสมุย

Bangkok Airways



SAMUI - one of the world's most beautiful islands, is famed for its blue skies, crystal clear seas and white sand beaches. Samui offers both water sports and dry land activities; including sea canoeing, windsurfing, snorkeling, scuba diving and elephant riding.



Cycling through the coconut groves



Discover the underwater world off Ko Tao



Romantic dining off Samui's seaside restaurants



Samui's sumptuous seafood



SAMUI

Thailand's island paradise

In just two decades Koh Samui has blossomed into one of Asia's leading holiday destinations. Every year more and more visitors are drawn to marvel at its beauty and relax in its sun-drenched embrace. One trip will tell you why Samui is a magical place, the original island paradise.

But there's a lot more to Samui than its miles of golden beaches. Jeeps, motorbikes and bicycles are for hire to explore its rugged interior. There are treks to do and soothing massages and spa treatments to enjoy. Three spectacular waterfalls await you to be visited on foot or on the back of an elephant. Then there are famous "Grandfather and Grandmother" phallic rocks, and a dizzying range of temples and animal sanctuaries to see. Samui is also a center for watersports, diving, snorkeling and sea canoeing

and a vibrant and colorful nightlife.

Further south, Lamai is Samui's second beach. Although it boasts some top hotels and every modern facility, a lot of the accommodation still consists of the romantic wooden beach huts that were built to house the first travelers 20 years ago. To the north of Samui are the pristine beaches of Bo Phud, Maenam and Tong Sai. Quiet and serene, they are excellent sites for yachting and home to some of the best five-star resorts on the island. Nathon, thriving port town and capital of Samui, is situated on the west coast. In the lush interior are jungle-covered rocky peaks and coconut groves, criss-crossed with dirt tracks and waiting to be discovered by jeep, motorcycle or mountain bike.

History - the island's peaceful past : Samui's ancient history is shrouded in mystery. Influences can be found from as far afield as India and the ancient Khmer empire of what is now Cambodia. In the mid-nineteenth century a wave of Chinese farmers arrived on the island from Hainan province, and settled at the village of Hua Thanon. Their colorful festivals



Pamper yourself at world class spas on Samui



Samui & Pha Ngan and Ko Tao all offer excellent snorkeling



adventures set off from the main beaches every day. Some go to the nearby islands of Ang Thong Marine National Park-the unspoiled Eden which inspired the Leonardo DiCaprio movie The Beach. And, when the sun sinks beneath the clear horizon, downtown Samui wakes up with a dizzying dining and nightlife scene all its own!

Geography - jewel of the Gulf : Samui is the largest of hundreds of islands in the calm, crystal seas of the Gulf of Thailand. At 250 square kilometers, it's the third largest in the kingdom after Phuket and Ko Chang. Situated 400 kilometers south of Bangkok, the nearest mainland town to Samui is Surat Thani, 60 kilometers to the west. To the North lies Ko Pha Ngan island, the diving haven of Ko Tao, and the 40 breathtaking islands of Ang Thong Marine National Park.

Around Samui - a tour of the sun shine isle : Chaweng, a stunning four-kilometer sweep of golden sand, was the first of Samui's beaches to be "discovered" and today it is the most popular and developed. On Chaweng you can find accommodation of any kind, excellent Thai and International cuisine, great shopping, International telecommunications

are still enthusiastically practiced.

When the first western travelers fell under Samui's spell in the 1970's, they found a peaceful life of fishing and farming going on much as it had for centuries. But as word got out, the island began a phase of rapid development to become the top international destination it is today. In the twenty-first century, the emphasis is on sustainable, environmentally-friendly progression, as Samui builds on its reputation with world-class services and amenities.

The Big Buddha - spectacular landmark : It's an unforgettable sight; the 12-metre high golden icon of the Big Buddha statue silhouetted against the tropical sky and sea behind. The venerated Temple of the Big Buddha was erected in 1972 on the northern tip of the island near Bo Phud beach, and has become an enduring symbol of the island of Samui. Your trip is not complete until you've seen it!

Diving - kingdom under the waves : Diving is passport to a new universe, a blue and weightless under- sea kingdom of breathtaking vistas and fabulous creatures. Learning to dive on "Samui is easy and comparatively

inexpensive." Many well-established and professional centers can take you through internationally recognized certification courses in variety of languages and to every level. Half-day excursions take you to top local sites. Or go on a one, two or three-day adventure to the coral and world-class diving locations or Ko Tao and Ang Thong Marine National Park.

Snorkeling - window on another world : Easy, cheap, healthy and great fun, the clear, calm waters around Samui offer excellent snorkeling. Masks and flippers can be hired everywhere, and many professional centers offer all-in snorkeling packages to the most spectacular sites in the Gulf of Thailand.

Canoeing - paddle power : Sea canoeing or "kayaking" is exciting, healthy and as green and clean as could be. It is a sport that is soaring in popularity in Thailand. Many operators hire out kayaks for a small charge for visitors to explore the secret bays and coves of Samui's coast. Or you can sail out to the some of the pristine islands in the Gulf of Thailand for overnight canoeing, snorkeling and beach barbecue trips.



Samui Aircraft (Boeing Jet 717-200) at Samui Airport

Seafood - fresh from the Gulf : Long the staple diet of the Samui islanders, seafood from the clear waters of the Gulf of Thailand is delicious, healthy and as fresh can be. Seafood is served everywhere on the island, but is best enjoyed right on the beach, under the stars, barbecued to order!

International food - a world of choice : Cosmopolitan Samui has become a culinary crossroads, and the choicest food from the four corners of the world can be found here. French pastries, Japanese sushi, German sausage, Italian pasta, Indian curries, Swiss fondue- whatever your favorite food, you'll find it on Samui!

Bars and clubs - in the heat of the night : A hot nightlife with a unique island character is thriving on Samui. Centered on Chaweng, you can enjoy music, food and good company, and dance right out on the beach! Up in the town, the heart of action is area around the famous Green Mango nightclub. There are live bands at Reggae Pub, and more late night venues at The Club and Santa Fe. On Lamai beach Bauhaus nightclub is the focus for an alternative nocturnal scene.

Spa & herbal sauna - rejuvenation : Therapeutic Thai massage is world-famous, and getting a soothing massage as you relax on the beach has always been a way of life on Samui. Now this tradition is blossoming into a full-service spa industry for visitors to indulge in. The recently-established Tamarind Springs spa near Lamai Beach offers the chance to pamper yourself in the most idyllic surroundings, while The Spa just down the road offers everything from facial massage to a full course of fasting, breathing, detox, chiropody and reflexology. Other centers on Samui offer reiki, Thai massage, meditation and yoga.

Shopping - great value : Holiday shopping means new summer clothes and elegant souvenirs- and Samui's got them all. Get hip with the latest beach fashions at Chaweng's Samui Hot Club of outlets all over the island. A specialty of the South of Thailand is its enchanting, brightly colored batik. Try on a sarong and see if it suits! The Kingdom is also famous for its excellent value jewelry, silk and hand-tailored clothes. Alternatively, high-class ethnic souvenirs made from coconut shells or bamboo are



No shortage of sun, sea and sand on Samui

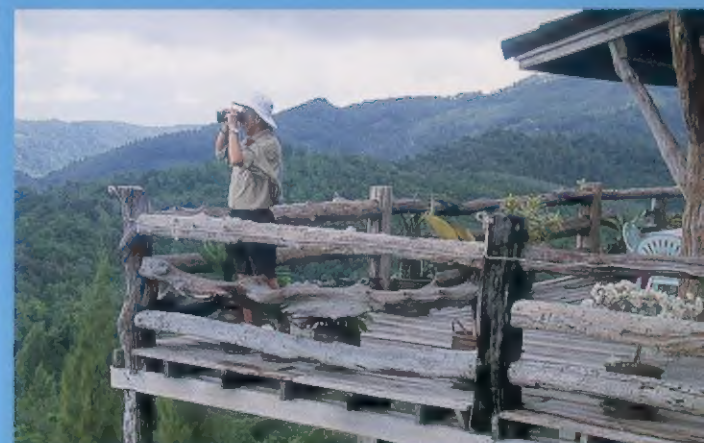
environmentally sound and will remind you of your stay.

Weather - sunshine isle : Sun-soaked Samui enjoys good weather all year round, with temperatures generally ranging between 27 and 34 degrees. There are officially three seasons. The cool season-cool by Samui standards, is between October and January, the hot season between February and May, and the rainy season between June and September. Despite the high temperatures, Samui is always pleasant, cooled by the sea breeze coming in from the Gulf. The monsoon rains usually only consist of brief shower before the sun comes back out.

Accommodation - suitable for all : There is an abundant of accommodation to meet every need, taste and budget on Samui. It ranges from simple, picturesque wooden huts to five-star international resorts with private beaches and every conceivable amenity. Hotels and bungalows are concentrated on the main beaches, but accommodation of all classes can be found off the beaten track. Tourist offices, travel agents and guides can help you find the perfect place to relax.

Samui Airport - a haven of tranquility : Nestled amid coconut groves and in complete harmony with its idyllic surroundings, Samui's award-winning airport is one of the most attractive and soothing you'll find anywhere. The showpiece facility combines the best of environmentally sensitive, traditional Thai design with 21st century functionality. Its open, low-rise structures are made from natural materials, thatched with palms and set in lush tropical gardens. The runway is even bordered by flowers! Samui Airport has won no less than four design and architectural awards, including most recently the prestigious Outstanding Architect Award from the Siamese Architects Association, held under the patronage of His majesty the King of Thailand in 1998.

The outward beauty of the airport is matched by a first-class range of services. Samui boasts complimentary e-mail connections and refreshments in the departure lounge, souvenir, restaurant and snack bar outlets, and a limousine service direct to your hotel. Built by Bangkok Airways in 1989, this remarkable airport out Samui on the international



Samui - the home of over 1,000 bird species

travel map and had grown to be in the natural air hub of the region. Bangkok Airways operates more than 40 flights a day from Samui, with routes to Bangkok, Hua Hin, Pattaya, Phuket and Singapore. The facility has been upgraded to a customs airport for international traffic, and Bangkok Airways is improving it even further by extending the runway to more than two kilometers.

Let Bangkok Airways Southern "Natural Hub" Samui Airport, be your gateway to a multitude of fascinating paradise destinations.

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| Bangkok | → | Samui |
| Hua Hin | → | Samui |
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| Phuket | → | Samui |
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